Friday, Jan. 21, 2000

Vandenberg AFB, Calif.

Vol. 10, No. 3

# **CES takes Air Force-level award**

STAFF SGT. ANDREW LEONHARD
30th Space Wing Public Affairs

■ With the American Music Awards over and the Grammys just around the corner, it's time to find out who some of the Air Force's award winners are for 1999.

And the winner is... Team Vandenberg as the 30th Civil Engineer Squadron captured two 1999 Air Force Civil Engineer Awards.

The 30<sup>th</sup> CES Environmental Flight was selected best in the Air Force. The 30<sup>th</sup> CES Fire Protection Flight was selected runner-up in their category.

Additionally, two members of the environmental flight were recognized for excellence by capturing the General Thomas D. White award. Specifically, Robert Peterson, 30<sup>th</sup> CES was selected as best in the Air Force for individual excellence in cultural resources management. Nancy Read, 30<sup>th</sup> CES, was selected runner-up for best in the Air Force in the category of natural resources management.

The environmental flight is further challenged due to the fact that Vandenberg is located in Santa Barbara County, which has the strictest



2nd Lt. Lee Sanderson, 30th Civil Engineer Squadron Environmental Flight, and Carol Kolb, California Regional Water Quality Control Board, discuss clean-up options at missile launcher 576-C, a former above ground missile launching facility on north Vandenberg.

environmental laws in the United States, said Lt. Col. Scott Westfall, 30<sup>th</sup> CES Environmental Flight commander.

For example, during 1999 Vandenberg received 82 environmental inspections while the rest of space command received fewer than 20 inspections combined.

Thoughout a two-year period the

base had 201 inspections and has received an incredible zero notices of violations, Westfall said.

Vandenberg successfully accomplishes the mission while excelling in its environmental responsibilities to protect and preserve the environment, Westfall said.

Currently, the base has 58 active permits. Of those, 46 are with the

county's Air Pollution Control District. Only four years ago, there were 102 air permits with the APCD. All permits require an annual inspection by an APCD regulator.

During a visit, regulators are looking at permits to make sure they're being complied with, Westfall said. While looking at the permits, regulators will also look at other inspectable areas for violations.

Some of the things being looked at during hazardous waste inspections include labels, start dates, availability of material safety data sheets and the integrity of containers.

"An area of constant concern is open containers. An open can of paint releases volatile organic compounds that are harmful to our environment," Westfall said. Containers of paints, resins, strippers and the like, must have a lid on them when not in use.

"I'm very proud of the personnel in the flight for their commitment to excellence and their excellence is being recognized," Westfall said. "We work hard to support the mission while protecting and enhancing the environment consistent with our stewardship responsibilities."



■ Team Vandenberg will honor Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. with a luncheon celebration Monday at 11:30 a.m., at the Pacific Coast Club. Call 734-4375 for tickets.

# Vandenberg launches MMII

■ An unarmed Minuteman II Intercontinental Ballistic Missile was successfully launched at 6:19 p.m., Tuesday from north Vandenberg.

The Minuteman II missile was launched in support of the National Missile Defense Program, which is managed by the Ballistic Missile Defense Organization's Joint Program Office in Washington, D.C.

The Ballistic Missile Defense Organization performed a test involving the planned intercept of a ballistic missile target over the central Pacific Ocean.

An intercept was not achieved.

The modified Minuteman II ICBM launched from

here, carried the target toward the Kwajalein Atoll in the Republic of the Marshall Islands. A prototype interceptor was launched approximately 20 minutes later from the Kwajalein Atoll about 4,300 miles away.

This is a joint program involving the U.S. Army, U.S. Air Force and U.S. Navy.

Government and industry program officials will conduct an extensive review of the test results to determine the reasons for not achieving an intercept. A review will also reveal any other test objectives that were or were not met. It could be several weeks before the review is complete.

# **CC**omment



Col. Steve Lanning Commander, 30th Space Wing

606-7850

# Commander's Action Line

s the wing commander, my primary focus is on the mission, and I believe that our mission success will be based on how well we care for our people on and off the job.

The Action Line is your direct link to me. It provides an avenue for you to voice your concerns, share constructive ideas or give your fellow base members a pat on the back. The Action Line is not a replacement for using the chain of command.

Callers are asked to leave their name and contact number in case more information is needed.

I want Vandenberg to continue to be the best Air Force base in the world. Working together, it will be.

### Handy phone numbers

Poison Control	800-777-6476
Clinic Appointments	606-4077
Healthwise Line	888-252-3299
TRICARE services	800-242-6788
Law Enforcement	606-3911
Area Defense Council	606-3627
Pass and Registration	606-1853
Accounting and Finance	e 606-4606
Community Support Cer	nter606-0039

Billeting	606-1844
Housing Maintenance	734-5586
Space & Missile Times	606-2040
Launch Update Line	606-1857
MPF customer service	606-7756
Pest Control	6061936
Visitor's Center	606-7662
Youth Center	606-2152
Chaplain	606-5573

# AF leaders take stance against harassment

■ WASHINGTON -- As the issue of harassment in the armed forces continues to be a subject of scrutiny, the Air Force's top two leaders are letting it be known such behavior will not be tolerated in the service.

Secretary F. Whitten Peters and Chief of Staff Gen. Michael Ryan released a policy letter Jan. 10 reiterating the Air Force's zero tolerance toward harassment.

Under the policy, commanders bear ultimate responsibility for ensuring prompt and appropriate action is taken against individuals who engage in this type of behavior.

"Every Air Force member deserves to work and live in an environment that is free of discrimination and harassment," stated the two leaders in the letter, which was released Air Force-wide.

"Accordingly, harassment, threats or

F. Whitten Peters

Secretary of the Air Force

ridicule of individuals or groups based upon their real or perceived differences, including sexual orientation, have no place in the U.S. Air Force and will not be tolerated," the letter stated.

The Air Force policy is in line with the stance taken by the Department of Defense regarding service members subjected to harassment based on alleged or perceived homosexuality.

"Members who are subjected to such harassment must be able to report that they are the victims of this behavior without fear that they will themselves become the subject of an inquiry simply for reporting the harassment," the Air Force leaders said.

"Each of us has an individual responsibility and a professional obligation to do his or her best to prevent harassment of any nature and to immediately correct it if it does occur."

# New year holds unprecedented opportunity for Air Force

By F. Whitten Peters and Gen. Michael Ryan

Secretary of the Air Force and Air Force Chief of Staff

he year 2000 came in quietly, at least with respect to Y2K concerns, but it ushered in unprecedented opportunity for our Air Force family — both in job satisfaction and compensation for a job well done.

The National Defense Authorization and Appropriation Acts for fiscal 2000 provide Air Force people solid improvements in quality of life through a 4.8 percent pay raise, flight pay for enlisted air crew members, expanded bonuses for pilots, increased enlistment and reenlistment bonuses, and 50 percent retirement.

The good news doesn't stop there. Recently, the Secretary of Defense announced a major initiative to improve Basic Allowance for Housing. Beginning this year and continuing through 2005, you will receive increases in BAH that will eliminate the out-of-pocket costs you incur to live in quality housing. This increase is part of an overall quality of life program that will also improve single-member

dormitories and on-base family housing through new construction and privatization.

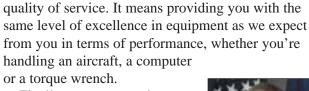
TRICARE is also a high priority in 2000 — not just for those of us in uniform, but for our families and retirees as well. The quality of care provided is good but we have to take steps to improve access to quality medical care while reducing the red tape

involved. We know that ensuring stability in your lives is just as important as pay and benefits, and as 2000 progresses you will see more and more the positive effects created by the Expeditionary Aerospace Force.

Knowing to which Aerospace Expeditionary Force you are assigned will put predictability back in your life. You will know well in advance when you're

scheduled to be on call for deployment. And when you deploy, it will be as part of a team, which will increase unit cohesion, productivity and morale.

We are also working to ensure you have the tools and training you need to do your job — what we call



Finally, we must continue to attract good people. We're introducing major initiatives to enhance our recruiting effort. We are significantly increasing the number of recruiters, expanding the amount of training they receive and increasing advertising aimed at potential recruits. And we are going to



Gen. Michael Ryan
Air Force Chief of Staff

improve the bonuses for hard-to-fill skills.

The quality of our Air Force people — military and civilian — is without peer. You prove your dedication and commitment to the mission every single day, and we truly appreciate all you do for our nation. Your Air Force leadership team is focused on doing what's right for the Air Force...and that means doing what's right for you. It's our top priority, this year and always.

#### SPACE&MISSILETIMES

**Col. Steve Lanning**30th Space Wing Commander

Maj. John Cherry Director of Public Affairs 1st Lt. J.J. Murphy
Chief, Internal Information
Staff Sgt. Rebecca Bonilla
Editor

Tech. Sgt. Lloyd Conley Staff Writer

Airman 1st Class April Muniz
Photographer

The Space and Missile Times is published by Lompoc Record Publications, a private firm in no way connected with the U.S. Air Force, under exclusive written contract with the 30th Space Winn

clusive written contract with the 30th Space Wing.
This commercial enterprise Air Force newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the
U.S. military services. Contents of the Space & Missile Times are not necessarily the official views or endorsed by the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense or the Department of the Air Force.

The appearance of advertising in the publication, including inserts or supplements, does not constitute endorsement by the Department of Defense, the Department of the Air Force or Lompoc Record Publications, of the products or services advertised.

Everything advertised in this publication shall be made available for purchase, use or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation or any other nonmerit factor of the

purchaser, user or patron. Editorial content is edited, prepared and provided by the Vandenberg AFB Public Affairs Office. All photos, unless otherwise indicated, are Air Force photos.

Publication deadline is 4:30 p.m. every Fri-

Publication deadline is 4:30 p.m. every Friday. The Public Affairs Office reserves the right to edit all submissions for style and space. Send submissions to: 30SW/PA, 747 Nebraska Ave., Room A-105, VAFB, CA 93437; via fax at DSN 276-8303 or commercial (805) 606-8303.

# Respect: something we can all live with

# Command Chief sees respect as basis for Air Force core values

BY CHIEF MASTER SGT. TERRY COOK

20th AF Command Chief Master Sergeant

ere's a scary story from one of our First Term Airman Centers, where one of our newest troops recently had a conversation with a senior NCO - and I use that term loosely.

During the conversation, the airman responded with a "Yes, sir" to the senior NCO's request. It was a simple sign of respect from the airman, something he'd been taught was the right thing to do. The senior NCO, however, told him in reply, "Don't call me sir - I work for a living."

Wrong response! The last time I checked both our officers and enlisted troops "work for a living" and work hard! There are no free rides; this is not an officer-enlisted thing. I'll bet that if the senior NCO was asked to do something for a Chief, he'd reply without thinking, "Yes sir, Chief - I'll take care of it."

R-E-S-P-E-C-T! It was a popular song lyric a few years ago. It's a concept that strikes at the heart of what we are all about: Integrity first, service before self, and excellence in all we do. Every airman must believe in and live by these values!

**Integrity** - the bedrock of our profession. **Service before self** - an enduring dedication to the mission. **Excellence** - a pursuit that must be a life-long journey we all take part in.

Doing our best for those we serve, and using sound judgement are not just professional obligations - they are moral ones as well. These core values remind us of the importance of our profession, the oath we took and the demands placed on us.

We all signed up to the "unlimited liability clause." We agree we may ultimately have to give our lives for our country. These are not new concepts.

Airmen come from basic and technical training with a great sense of respect and discipline. How does an airman address an NCO in tech school, or a TI at Lackland? By standing and responding, "Yes sir!" "Thank you, ma'am!"

Saluting, standing when speaking to someone senior, using proper titles - these are cornerstones of military customs and courtesies.

Where do they break down? You know the answer! The first line supervisor either makes or breaks the process and senior NCOs must demand that their troops enforce standards of respect and discipline.

No, I don't want us to live every day in basic training! But we must continue to reinforce the fundamental standards of discipline learned there, and in tech school. We should never, never, never discourage anyone, junior or senior, from showing courtesy and respect.

Upset by this straightforward approach to a disturbing trend? Good! Because it's an important issue you need to think about! It's critical to the success of our 21st Century Air Force. Without respect, the foundation of our service will crumble and fall apart.

At the completion of the newly established Basic Military Training Warrior Week, there's a graduation ceremony where trainees are first called "Airman," are given a commemorative coin, and welcomed to the most powerful and respected Air Force in the world. We've got to continue that process and build tomorrow's leaders by reinforcing the standards of respect and discipline we know are right!

# Tricare answers everyday questions

■ Here is an update in our series of frequently asked questions about TRICARE.

Q: I have an eligible family member with special needs. How does TRICARE fit in with the Program for Persons with Disabilities, previously known as the Program for the Handicapped?

A: The PFPWD is a financial assistance program for active duty dependents with severe physical disabilities or with moderate to severe mental retardation who cannot get specialized training or care through public resources.

Active duty family members can take advantage of both TRICARE and the PFPWD programs concurrently. The exception is that authorized services provided in conjunction with the PFPWD qualifying condition cannot be furnished under the basic program as long as the qualifying condition exists and there is a PFPWD benefit authorization outstanding

The PFPWD is used concurrently with TRICARE Prime, Extra or Standard. Authorization for benefits under PFPWD does not affect your enrollment in TRICARE Prime. It does provide an additional financial option to explore when using medical resources. When you are enrolled in TRICARE Prime, you are assigned a Primary Care Manager, who has the responsibility to authorize specialty care under the Prime program. Benefits not normally covered may be cost shared under the PFPWD. Because of the cost associated with care for family members with special needs, most families will be encouraged to review all of the TRICARE options. Recognizing that the catastrophic cap under Extra and Standard is only \$1,000, and all further cost are covered at 100% by the government, TRICARE Prime may not be your

#### News

#### BRIEFS

## COMMANDER AUTHORIZES MISSION WELL-DONE DAY

Col. Steve Lanning, 30th Space Wing commander, has named today a "Mission Well-done Day" for the 30th Space Wing. Most wing offices will be closed for the day.

# COMMANDER CALLS WING MEMBERS TO SESTO AUDITORIUM

Col. Steve Lanning, 30th Space Wing commander will hold a commander's call Monday at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. in Sesto Auditorium. All wing personnel must attend.

#### COMPANY GRADE OFFICERS MEET AT PACIFIC COAST CLUB

The Company Grade Officer's Council will meet Jan. 28 at 3 p.m. in the Pacific Coast Club. All CGOs are encouraged to attend. The executive board meeting will be held Wednesday at 11:30 a.m. at the PCC. For more information or to have an issue placed on the agenda, call 1st Lt. J.J. Murphy at 606-2040.

## CHAPEL SPONSORS LUNCHEON FOR NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER

The National Prayer Luncheon is scheduled for Feb. 8 at 11:30 a.m. in the Pacific Coast Club. Space Command Chaplain Col. David Park will be the guest speaker. Cost for the luncheon is \$4 for club members and \$7 for non-members. Unit first sergeants and chapel staff are selling tickets. For more information call chaplain Capt. Brian Shipman at 606-8270.

#### BASE FIRST SERGEANTS HAVE AWARDS BANQUETTICKETS

The Vandenberg Quarterly Awards Luncheon will be held Tuesday at 11:30 in the Pacific Coast Club. Cost is \$8 for club members and \$11 for non-members. See first sergeants for tickets.

## TWO MEDICAL GROUP CLINICS GET NEW HOMES

Two 30<sup>th</sup> Medical Group clinics are moving to new locations. The podiatry clinic moved to the second floor of the hospital Jan. 14. To make appointments call 606-4077. Patients who need to leave a message for the doctor should

call 605-5801. The internal medicine clinic will move to room 1-600 on the first floor Jan. 31.

# SPACE COMMAND ASSIGNMENT TEAM VISITS VANDENBERG

An Air Force Space Command assignment team will visit Vandenberg on Tuesday and Wednesday to give base members the latest information on the assignment process. Members are encouraged to attend one of the listed briefings in Sesto Auditorium. Officer briefings will be geared toward the 13SXX career field, however, everyone may attend. People who would like an individual appointment may schedule one following their assigned briefing. Officer appointments will begin at 2:30 p.m. at the military personnel flight. Enlisted appointments will be given Wednesday from 7:30 to 9 a.m. For more information call Senior Master Sgt. Rene Alvarez at 605-8481. Tuesday's briefing schedule is as follows:

9 a.m. - officers, 10:30 a.m. - enlisted, 1 p.m. - officers, 2:30 p.m. - enlisted, 6 p.m. - enlisted shift workers.

#### AAFES, SAFETY COMMISSION RECALL EASY-OFF OVEN CLEANER

The Army and Air Force Exchange Service, with the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission and Reckitt & Colman of Montvale, N.J., is voluntarily recalling the 16-ounce original scent "Easy-Off Heavy Duty Oven Cleaner" in the yellow can. The item may have an improperly attached valve assembly that has the potential to separate from the can, causing the contents to escape. Direct contact with the contents causes burns to the skin and eyes, therefore, customers shouldn't remove the cap.

The production lot affected by the recall is B9305-NJ2, sold after Nov. 4, 1999 only. Customers with the product should call Reckitt and Colman at (888) 993-3389, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. EST; Saturday and Sunday, 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. EST, for instructions and a refund.

# Judge Advocate department opens competition for law school programs

STAFF JUDGE ADVOCATE OFFICE

■ Competition for the fiscal 2000 Funded Legal Education Program and Excess Leave Program has begun. Interested officers are encouraged to compete.

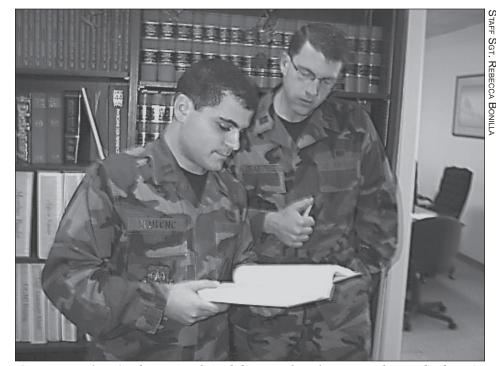
The FLEP program is a paid legal studies program for active-duty Air Force officers. Officers who successfully complete FLEP and ELP are eligible to be designated as judge advocates.

Eligibility for FLEP requires the applicant to have served no fewer than two years, and no more than six years active-duty service, either enlisted or commissioned. FLEP applicants must also be in the pay grade of 0-3 or below as of the first day of law school.

The ELP program is an unpaid legal studies program for Air Force officers. Eligibility for ELP requires the applicant to have served at least two years, and no more than ten years of active-duty service. Additionally, ELP applicants must be in the pay grade of 0-3, with less than three years in grade, or below as of the first day of law school.

The FLEP and ELP programs require attendance at an American Bar Association accredited law school. Upon graduation and admission to one of the 50 state bars, including Puerto Rico and the District of Columbia, candidates are eligible for designation as a judge advocate.

The selection process for FLEP and ELP is very



Capt. Douglas Crabtree (right), debates a legal issue with Vandenberg's newest lawyer Capt. Anthony Kolenc. Kolenc graduated from the University of Florida College of Law through the Air Force's Funded Legal Education Program.

competitive. Candidates are selected on the "whole person concept." During fiscal 1999, the average selectee's Law School Admissions Test score was 162 or 88th percentile. The average undergraduate

grade point average was 3.32. The FLEP selection rate was 12 percent, while the overall FLEP and ELP selection rate during fiscal '99 was 21 percent.

To be considered for FLEP or ELP, applicants must have completed all application forms, applied to an ABA accredited law school, received their Law School Admissions Test results, and completed a staff judge advocate interview by Mar. 10. Chapters 2 and 3 of Air Force Instruction 51-101, Judge Advocate Accession Program, discuss the FLEP and ELP programs.

For more information and an application, call Maj. Mark Allison in the Headquarters United States Air Force Judge Advocate

Department at DSN 224-5941. Members can send him an e-mail at <u>Mark.Allison@pentagon.af.mil</u>, or visit the judge advocate department's website at <a href="http://www.jagusaf.hq.af.mil">http://www.jagusaf.hq.af.mil</a>.



### Caught in Time

Members of Team Vandenberg participate in the dedication of a time capsule Saturday in Lompoc. The capsule contains pieces of history donated by Vandenberg AFB, the city of Lompoc, the Lompoc Chamber of Commerce and Visitors Bureau, and the Lompoc Historical Society. Participating in the ceremony were, (left to right) Senior Airman Corey Sturdivant and Senior Airman Tyson Wilhelm, of the Vandenberg Honor Guard; Col. Steve Lanning, 30th Space Wing commander; Col. Duane Lamb, 30th Support Group commander; Staff Sgt. Steven Corey and Senior Airman Jessica Potter, Vandenberg Honor Guard; and Senior Airman Timothy Van Prooyen who sang the National Anthem with fellow Senior Airmen Marc Kreienbrink and Michael Shelton.

# Slow down

AIR COMBAT COMMAND

Public Affairs

ack took a long look at his speedometer before slowing down: 73 mph in a 55 mph zone. It was his fourth time getting stopped in four months. How could a guy get a break?

The cop was stepping out of his car, the big pad in hand.

Bob? Bob from church?
Jack sunk farther into his
trench coat. This was worse
than the coming ticket. A
christian cop catching a guy
who happened to be a little
eager to get home after a long
day at the office. A guy he
was about to play golf with
tomorrow. Jumping out of the
car, he approached a man he
saw every Sunday, a man he'd
never seen in uniform.

"Hi Bob. Fancy meeting you like this."

"Hello Jack." No smile.

"Guess you caught me redhanded in a rush to see my
wife and kids."

"Yeah, I guess."

Bob seemed uncertain.
Good.

"I've seen some long days at the office lately. I'm afraid I bent the rules a bit." Jack toed at a pebble on the pavement. "Diane said something about roast beef and potatoes tonight. Know what I mean?"

"I know you mean. I also know that you have a reputation in our precinct."

Ouch. This wasn't going in the right direction. Time to change tactics. "What'd you clock me at? Seventy-one?"

"Would you sit back in your car please?"

"Now, wait a minute there, Bob. I checked as soon as I saw you. I was barely nudging 65." The lie seemed to come easier with every ticket.

"Please Jack, in the car."
Flustered, Jack hunched
himself through the still-open
door. Slamming it shut, he
stared at the dashboard. He

was in no rush to open the window. The minutes ticked by. Bob scribbled away on the pad. Why hadn't he asked for a driver's license?

Whatever the reason, it would be a month of Sundays before Jack ever sat near this cop again. A tap on the door jerked his head to the left.

There was Bob, folded paper in hand. Jack rolled down the window a mere two inches, just enough room for Bob to pass him the slip.

"Thanks." Jack couldn't quite keep the sneer out of his voice. Bob returned to his car without a word.

Jack watched his retreat in the mirror. Jack unfolded the sheet of paper. How much was this one going to cost him? Wait a minute. What was this? Some kind of joke? It certainly wasn't a ticket. Jack began to read:

Dear Jack,

Once upon a time I had a daughter. She was six when she was killed by a car. You guessed it. A speeding driver. A fine and three months in jail, and the man was free. Free to hug his daughters – all three of them. I had only one, and I'm going to have to wait until heaven before I can ever hug her again. A thousand times *I've tried to forgive that man.* A thousand times I've thought I had. Maybe I did, but I need to do it again. Even now. Pray for me. And be careful. My son is all I have left.

Bob

Jack twisted around in time to see Bob's car pull away and head down the road. Jack watched until it disappeared. A full 15 minutes later, he too pulled away and drove slowly home.

Praying for forgiveness, he hugged a surprised wife and children when he arrived.

Life is precious. Handle it with care.

Drive safely and pay attention to what you're doing.

# Community involvement earns safety chief most influential person award

Thirty-year devotion to youth sports merits local honor for Vandenberg's chief engineer

By Tech. Sgt. Buzz Ritchie

30th Space Wing Public Affairs

oung athletes in Lompoc haven't hit a home run or scored a touch down in 30 years without help from Leo Aragon.

But the chief engineer and deputy chief of safety for the 30<sup>th</sup> Space Wing hasn't faced a pitcher or opposing defense in three decades.

His secret weapon? Aragon has dominated youth sports in the Lompoc Valley because of his unparalleled community service.

For his involvement in youth sports and city parks and recreation, the 62-year-old engineer was named as one of the most influential residents of Lompoc from 1970-1990. The Man and Woman of the Century committee looked at nominees taken from the Lompoc community at large. The 11-member committee looked for civic involvement, volunteer service and dedication to the community, said Al Walker, committee chairman.

The selection committee named 22 people for the honor of Person of the Decade and 13 men and 10 women as honorable mentions. Aragon received an honorable mention for his civic involvement from 1970 to 1990.

"This is a surprise and distinct honor for me," Aragon said about his nomination and selection. "My goal during 30 years of service to this community was to improve the quality of life for young people in Lompoc. I think our children are the most important resource our community has, and I've tried to focus all my energy to help them foster high personal values."

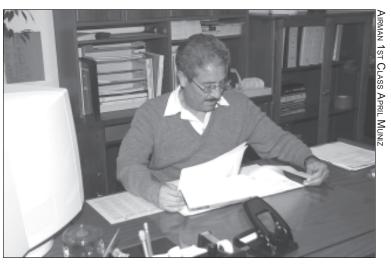
"We were very impressed with Mr. Aragon's accomplishments," Walker said. "The problem for the committee was that there were so many people who were quality candidates for the award. It was hard to narrow down the list of candidates and make a selection. There just wasn't much difference between the Person of the Decade and the people who were honorably mentioned."

The 30<sup>th</sup> Space Wing's chief engineer began his community service in 1969 when he coached and managed a Little League baseball team. It grew through the '70s while he continued coaching and managing Little League and Babe Ruth league baseball teams.

At the same time, Aragon was involved in Lompoc Youth Football League as an athletic director and coach for the league. He eventually served 12 years as that league's president.

But Aragon's civic volunteer work has touched more than baseball and football. He has worked as a member of the Lompoc City Parks and Recreation Commission and cofounded the Tri-Counties Parks and Recreation Commission between Santa Barbara, Ventura and San Luis Obispo counties.

An engineer who started his work in the space and missile in business in 1967 at



Leo Aragon is the 30th Space Wing's chief engineer and deputy chief of Safety.

Vandenberg's then Air Force Western Test Range, Aragon has made time to serve as president of the Lompoc Valley Distance Club for 15 years, co-director of the Valley of the Flowers Marathon and Half-Marathon, member of the North Channel Coast Wrestling Officials Association, high school football official with the North Channel Coast Football Officials Association, and 21-year member of the Lompoc Elks Lodge.

At Vandenberg, he has worked in the safety business for a number of missile programs, including the Minuteman II and III, Titan II ballistic missile, and Peacekeeper ICBM. As chief engineer and deputy chief of safety, Aragon oversees the technical projects and operations of the 30<sup>th</sup> Space Wing's safety office and manages the development of nationally accepted range safety requirements which help set the standards for the Air Force, Army, Navy, NASA and commercial programs.

The wing's chief engineer is a graduate of New Mexico State University. He earned his master's degree from the University of Southern California in 1971. Aragon was named the Air Force Association Civilian of the Year in 1995 for his work to standardize range safety requirements for DOD agencies and NASA and coordinating the effort to standardize industry safety standards for commercial spacelift programs.

# Race to 2000 participants finish strong as new millenium dawns

BY TECH. SGT. LLOYD CONLEY
30th Space Wing Public Affairs

■ As the new millenium dawns, the time to bid the past adios has come.

Consequently, it means the end of the Fitness Challenge Race to 2000.

The Race to 2000 was an incentive program offered to all active duty service members from Oct. 22 to Dec. 31. The purpose of the program was to encourage members to motivate themselves to workout 30 minutes per day, at

least three times a week to achieve the goal of 900 minutes before the new year.

Commander's Trophy points were awarded to the units with the highest percentage participation. Individual prizes and a grand prize entry will be awarded to participants with 900 minutes or more.

A ceremony honoring the finalists of the Race to 2000 will be held Jan. 28 at 2 p.m. at the Fitness and Sport Center.

And the winners are ... **Individuals:** 

### 30th Mission Support Squad-

Tech. Sgt. Ken Bennett Capt. J.D. Holt Capt. Rita Holt



Col. Jame Mueller, 30th Space Wing director of staff tees off during his farewell golf tournament at the Marshallia Ranch Golf Course Jan.14.

Staff Sgt. Thomas Merritt 30th Logisites Group and Contracting Squadron Col. Paul Curtis Capt. Judy Gettys

**30th Operatiosn Group and Weather Squadron**Capt. Justin Brizuela

#### 2nd Space Launch Squadron

Capt. Shawn Francis Capt. David Meteyer Senior Airman Randy Sunga

#### 30th Security Forces Squadron

Master Sgt. Mark Garcia

**392nd Taining Squadron** 2ndLt. Joseph Hank

#### **534th Training Squadron**

Senior Airman Benjamin Lynch

# 30th Communication Squadron

Senior Master Sgt. Neal Ada

Tech. Sgt. Charles Latham Master Sgt. Stephan Lee

#### 576th Flight Test Squadron

Tech. Sgt Greg Gowins Staff Sgt. Mitchell Little Staff Sgt. Carla Love Staff Sgt. Mark Schurman

**30th Medical Group** Tech. Sgt. Mark Vlahos

Winners for the Commanders Trophy Points:

### **Large Units:**

$1^{st} - 576th FLTS$	35 pts
$2^{nd}-30th\ MSS$	25 pts
$3^{rd} - 30th CES$	20 pts
$4^{th} - 30th MGDP$	10 pts
$5^{th} - 30th SFS$	10pts

#### **Small Units:**

$1^{st} - 30th \ CS$	35 pts
$2^{nd} - 30th \ LG/CONS$	25 pts
$3^{rd} - 392th TRS$	20 pts
4 <sup>th</sup> - 614th SOPS	10pts
5th – 30th TRNS10 pts	
6th - 30th OG/WS/2 SLS	10 pts
$7^{th} - 534th TRS$	10 pts

 $8^{\text{th}}-532nd\ TRS10\ pts$ 



### Worthwhile Efforts

Airman Leadership School students hold a community car wash to raise money for their class project. The car wash took place Saturday in the Vandenberg Center parking lot. The students, left to right, Senior Airmen, Lisa Antoni, 576th Flight Test Squadron, Devin Miller 30th Security Forces Squadron, Jared Antoni, 30th SFS and Hutch Crosson 345th Training Squadron, raised more than \$530.

**22** by

The Santa
Barbara
Dance
Theater will

present their 9<sup>th</sup> annual concert, "*Chasing Rainbows*," Saturday at 8 p.m. and Sunday at 2 p.m. at the Hatlen theater on the University of California at Santa Barbara Campus. For reservations or ticket information, call 805-893-3535.

**23** No.

The next singles ministry group meeting is sched-

uled for Sunday from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Chapel 1 annex. For more information call Chaplain Capt. Brian Shipman at 606-8270.

**23** §

The local Knights of Columbus group is

sponsoring a youth **Free-throw Championship** at 1 p.m. Sunday in the gym annex. Boys and girls, ages 10 to 14 are invited to attend. For more information call Ben Damian at 606-3259 or 734-3026.

**24** 

A Sponsorship Training, class is scheduled for Monday at 9 a.m. at the community support center. The program will address sponsor responsibilities, resources and tips. For more information, call the relocation assistance office at 606-0801.

**25** 

The community support center is sponsoring a

pathways for youth workshop Tuesday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The two-day workshop teaches high school-aged students goal setting, establishing and keeping a good self image, self esteem building and self management skills. Call Jimmy Camacho at 606-0039 for details.

**25** 🖹

There will be a **Smart Women Finish Rich,** 

seminar

Tuesday at 1 p.m. at the community support center. To register, call Jeri Salveter at 606-4491.

**26** 

The **Cabrillo High School**Aquarium is scheduled for

public viewing Wednesday from 6:45 to 8:30 p.m. There will be a variety of static-,

warm- and cold-water reef displays, and additional student projects. For more information, call Elaine Long at 733-4538.

**27** 

Comedian, Danny Hoch, is scheduled

to perform "*Portraits of Humanity*" at the Cal-Poly theater Thursday at 8 p.m. Call 805-756-1148 for ticket

information.

28

A puppet show entitled, "Roos Move Too," is

scheduled for Jan. 28 at 10 a.m. at the community support center for preschool-aged children departing or arriving at Vandenberg. For more information, call the relocation office at 606-

**29** kg

The Santa Barbara Grand Opera will

0801.

perform Mozart's most popular opera, "The Marriage of Figaro," Jan. 29 at 7:30 p.m. at the Lobero theater, 33 East Canon Perdido St. in Santa Barbara. For reservations call 805-963 0761.



The **Douhet Society's**next meeting
is scheduled

for noon, Feb. 1 at the base library. The topic of discussion is T. R. Fehrenbach's novel, "This Kind of War." For more information call 1st Lt. John Pease at 606-3993.



The Santa Barbara County Education

Office has scheduled its 25<sup>th</sup> annual **parent conference** at Lompoc High School Feb. 5 from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Workshop Topics to be covered include ,Confident Parenting, School Reform: Facts for Parents, Special Education Services and college information. For more information call Adriana Seaman at 736-2371 ext. 230.



The Borbeaux Opera Ballet will perform "Romeo and

Juliet," in three acts at the PAC-Cohen Center Feb. 6 at 3 p.m. on the Cal-Poly Campus. For ticket information, call 805-756-2787.

7

The **Lompoc Pops Orches tra** will
present a

Valentine concert, entitled "From California with Love," Feb. 7 at 7:30 p.m. at Trinity Church of the Nazarene, 500 North "D" St. in Lompoc. Tickets are available from Lompoc area merchants. For more information, call the Lompoc Valley Chamber of Commerce at 733-5102.

**19** 

A Habitat for Humanity walk, skate and jog-

a-thon is scheduled for 8 a.m., Feb. 19 at the habitat build site on Via Carro street in Santa Maria. Individuals, families and business groups are invited to attend. Pick up pledge sheets at the recreation center or call Senior Master Sgt. John Gellentien at 735-

**22** 

9168.
The **Boys**Choir of
Harlem, is

scheduled to perform Feb. 22 at 8:30 p.m. at the PAC-Cohen Center on the Cal-Poly campus. Call 805-756 2787 for ticket information.

#### AT THE MOVIES

Friday

The Messenger: The Story of Joan of Arc

**(R)** Starring Milla Jovovich and John Malkovich. 148 min.

Saturday
End of Days (R)
Starring Arnold
Schwarznegger and
Gabriel Ryrne. 122
min.

Sunday End of Days(R)